

Patent Number:

United States Patent [19]

Gianni

[45] **Date of Patent:**

[11]

5,958,057

Sep. 28, 1999

[54]	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR POWERING-ON A COMPUTER-BASED SYSTEM VIA A NETWORK INTERFACE		
[75]	Inventor:	Robert R. Gianni, San Jose, Calif.	
[73]	Assignee:	Sun Microsystems, Inc., Mountain	

View, Calif.

[21] Appl. No.: 09/152,634

[22] Filed: Sep. 14, 1998

Related U.S. Application Data

[63]	Continuation of application Pat. No. 5,809,313.	No.	08/499,085,	Jul.	6,	1995,
	Pat. No. 5,809,515.					

[51]	Int. Cl. 6	G06F 1/26
[52]	U.S. Cl	713/310 ; 713/300
	Field of Search	395/750.01-750.08.

References Cited [56]

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,635,195 4,663,539 4,663,563 4,677,566 4,747,041	5/1987 5/1987 6/1987 5/1988	Jeppesen, II et al. 395/750 Sharp et al. 395/750 Sharp et al. 307/38 Whittaker et al. 395/750 Engel et al. 395/750
4,747,041 5,012,233	5/1988 4/1991	Engel et al

5,121,500 5,121,506	6/1992 6/1992	Arlington et al	395/750 395/750
5,381,414	1/1995	Gibson	395/750
5,396,636	3/1995	Gallagher et al	395/750
5,535,400	7/1996	Belmont	395/750

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

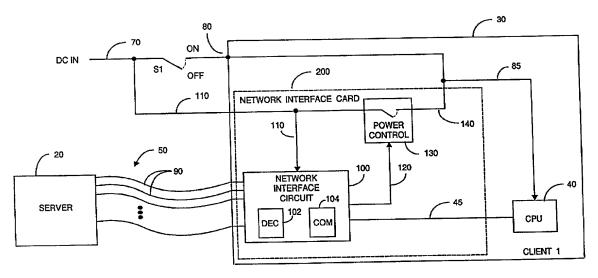
92302925	4/1992	European Pat. Off
92305570	6/1992	European Pat. Off
93304075	5/1993	European Pat. Off

Primary Examiner—Ayaz R. Sheikh Assistant Examiner—David Wiley Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Flehr Hohbach Test Albritton & Herbert LLP

ABSTRACT

A network interface card in a networked client computer includes a network interface circuit that decodes and then compares incoming network packet addresses to known address bit patterns, the decoding and comparing circuitry being powered at all times. Receipt and recognition of certain addresses means the client computer must be powered-on, even if manually switched OFF. When such a server-transmitted address is recognized, a power-on signal is issued to a power control unit that causes full operating power to be coupled to the client computer. In this fashion, a server can broadcast power-on signals to a plurality of networked client computers or workstations.

20 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets



395/750